

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 SAB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2324

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5057

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, JO, SA, IS, US

SUBJECT: KHMER RELATIONS WITH ARAB STATES

REF: A. STATE 192437

B. AMMAN 5056

1. REF (A) CONVEYS TEXT MESSAGE WHICH KHMER PM LONG BORET ASKED EMBASSY AMMAN TRANSMIT. IN ADDITION, MININFO SHHANG LONG ASKED AMBASSADOR FOR FOLLOWING HELP: (A) PERSONAL ASSESSMENT KHMER PROPOSAL MOVE EMBASSY FROM JERUSALEM TO TEL AVIV TO SECURE ESTABLISHMENT RELATIONS WITH JORDAN; (B) PARALLEL ASSESSMENT BY DEPT IF THAT CAN BE PROVIDED; (C) WHETHER AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV CAN BE INSTRUCTED SUPPORT THIS APPROACH WITH ISRAELIS.

2. ON (A) AMBASSADOR SAID KING HUSSEIN HAD MENTIONED THIS ISSUE TO HIM THIS AFTERNOON AND INDICATED MINIMUM STEP FOR KHMER RELATIONS WAS MOVE OF EMBASSY. ON THAT BASIS, IF KHMER DESIRED BEGIN PROCESS OF SEEKING ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ARABS, CONFIDENTIAL

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RECOMMENDATION IN CABLE TO LON NOL SEEMED REALISTIC.

COULD NOT ANTICIPATE ISRAELI REACTION, BUT RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT FORD "SETTING ASIDE" MOVEMENT OF US EMBASSY SEEMED RELEVANT.

3. ON (B), PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY FURTHER ASSESSMENT DEPT MAYBE ABLE TO PROVIDE. PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD TAKE FULLY INTO ACCOUNT PROBLEMS AND POLICY OUTLINED BY SECRETARY IN REF (A).

4. ON (C), PRESUME DEPT ALSO WILL WANT TO WEIGH THIS STEP IN LIGHT OF CONSIDERATION OUR TOTAL RELATIONS WITH AND SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL.

5. WE PRESUME ALSO JIDDA AND TEL AVIV WILL WISH TO COMMENT. FOR JIDDA, SHHANG SONG TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT KING FEISAL HAS PROMISED TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTRY IS INSISTING OF BREAKS WITH ISRAEL. KHMER DELEGATION WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY ASSESSMENT OF DEGREE OF SAUDI POSITIVE REACTION TO MOVEMENT OF KHMER EMBASSY TO TEL AVIV WHICH KHMER DEL SAYS IS NOW ESTABLISHED AT CHARGE LEVEL. LONG CONSIDERING RETURNING TO JIDDA TO WRAP UP RELATIONS IF MOVE OF EMBASSY IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO GET SAUDI AGREEMENT.

6. PRESUME TEL AVIV WILL ALSO WISH TO COMMENT. WE ARE NOT SURE TO WHAT DEGREE JORDANIANS WOULD INSIST ON MAKING PUBLIC IN PROPOSED JOINT KHMER-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE QUESTION OF EMBASSY MOVEMENT IF LON NOL CONCURS, BUT IF POSSIBLE THIS POINT COULD BE MUTED IF IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO ISRAELIS. PICKERING

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